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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/903,315	07/10/2001	Han-Sen Lee	LEE-8	7401

7590 11/13/2003

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EXAMINER

LEV, BRUCE ALLEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3634

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SR

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/903,315

Applicant(s)

Lee

Examiner

Bruce A. Lev

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Sep 29, 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on Oct 8, 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

BRUCE A. LEV

PRIMARY EXAMINER

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As concerns claims 1 and 5, the phrase “an aperture for fitting within said bore” is vague and indefinite since it is not understood how an “aperture”, which is a hole, can conceivably be able to fit within a “bore”...a hole within a hole?

Also as concerns claims 1 and 5, the newly added language, “said first end plug” renders the claim as vague and indefinite since it is unclear as to how the “first end plug” is “for fitting within said *second* end bore of said base louver” when the “first end plug” has been previously set forth as “for fitting within said *first* end bore of said base louver” (two lines previous).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Judkins et al* 6,119,757.

As concerns claims 1-4, Judkins et al set forth a cord and louver assembly (best illustrated in Figures 1, 3, 12, and 15) comprising a pair of ladder cords having vertical cord portions, and a plurality of horizontal cord portions forming ladder openings; a plurality of louvers each having

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cord openings; a base louver having bores; end plugs fitting within the bores of the base louver; vertical elevation cords extending through the cord openings, the apertures of the plugs and affixed thereto, wherein the vertical elevation cords have lengths greater than that necessary for connection to a channel component and secured by a base louver and end plugs; and a channel assembly.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. Claims 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over ***Judkins in view of Debs 4,487,243***.

Judkins et al set forth the apparatus, as advanced above, and thereby the method of forming, except for attaching the second ends of the cords to respective rotation members of the channel and component assembly. However, ***Debs discloses*** a blind set that incorporates attaching second ends of its cords 20 to respective rotation members 16 of its channel and component assembly. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of forming the blind set of Judkins by incorporating attaching the second ends of the cords to respective rotation members of the channel and component assembly, as taught by Debs, in order to provide more precise motion control of slats.

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Response to Amendment

4. Applicant's remarks filed September 29, 2003, have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

As concerns remarks pertaining to the second end of the elevation cord extending beyond the first ladder opening occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver, the examiner points out that the distances implied are dependent upon the chosen position of the louver farthest from said base louver. For instance, when the blind is retracted half-way, the end of the elevation cord *will* extend beyond the first ladder opening occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver. Further, the examiner points out that the end of the elevation cord would need to be extending beyond the first ladder opening occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver (at all times) in order for the cord to be attached to the opening (and as such the base louver) at all.

As for the reference of Judkins '757, the examiner reiterates the position that the structural limitations of the instant claims appear to be met as advanced above.

And, as for the 103 rejections of Judkins in view of Debs, the examiner reiterates the position that it would have been obvious to modify the method of forming the blind set of Judkins by incorporating attaching the second ends of the cords to respective rotation members of the channel and component assembly in order to provide more precise motion control of slats.

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Conclusion

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office Action.

Applicant's amendment, including "said first end plug", in claims 1 and 5, necessitated the new grounds of rejection. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See M.P.E.P.

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R.

§ 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bruce A. Lev whose telephone number is (703) 308-7470.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

November 3, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce A. Lev'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping 'B' and a cursive 'Lev'.

Bruce A. Lev

Primary Examiner

Group 3600